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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 STATE 004858

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: AEMR ASEC CASC KFLO MARR PREL PINR AMGT HA

SUBJECT: TFHA01: HAITI EARTHQUAKE TASK FORCE SITUATION REPORT
NO. 22

STATE 00004858 001.3 OF 002

VIP TRAVEL

¶1. (U) Former President Clinton plans to meet with President Preval in Haiti January 18. (AP)

SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR)

¶2. (SBU) As of 2300 on January 17, international urban search and rescue (USAR) teams had rescued a total of 69 individuals, including 37 rescues by U.S. SARS. (USAID SitRep #10)

COMMODITY FLOW

¶3. (SBU) U.S. vessels are exempt from port fees according to a 1995 bilateral SOFA. U.S. nonprofit relief and rehabilitation agencies are exempt from domestic taxes and may enter duty-free. (TF1/ SOUTHCOM e-mail)

¶4. (U) The World Food Program reports the first 10,000 gallons of fuel for NGOs will arrive in the coming days. (USAID SitRep 10)

EVACUATIONS/AMERICAN CITIZEN AND LES WHEREABOUTS

¶5. (SBU) The flight carrying the remains of Cultural Affairs Officer Victoria DeLong arrived in Miami at 0110 on January 18. (TF1/Miami PPT Agency e-mail)

¶6. (SBU) The National Visa Center is staffed to run a document processing shift on pending adoption cases. (TF1/CA e-mail)

¶7. (SBU) Two private citizens are sending aircraft with aid. One plane will carry 20 people back to the United States. Another citizen will fly a Boeing 737 on January 19 to deliver aid and is willing to provide nine more planes next week for evacuation. (TF1/ Senator Mark Udall staff e-mail)

¶8. (SBU) Out of 489 Embassy Port-au-Prince local guard force staff, two are reported dead, 233 are unaccounted for. (TF1/DS e-mail)

¶9. (SBU) As of 2000 on January 17, approximately 3567 Americans have been accounted for. (TF1/Embassy Port-au-Prince e-mail)

¶10. (SBU) Since 2200 on January 17, 183 Americans had departed Port-au-Prince, 178 of which went to Homestead AFB and five to Ottawa. A total of 2971 Americans have been evacuated to date. 157 Americans were inside the Embassy, and 26 individuals were outside. (TF1/Embassy Port-au-Prince e-mail)

¶11. (SBU) As of 0500, there were 17 confirmed American citizen fatalities. (TF1/Embassy Port-au-Prince e-mail)

MEDICAL RESPONSE

¶12. (U) No updates at this time.

INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION/REQUESTS

¶13. (SBU) The Government of Portugal informed Embassy Lisbon of its offer of a C-130 to shuttle relief supplies. The C-130 would include 40-plus personnel and equipment, including tents for IDPs. (TF1/SOUTHCOM e-mail)

DEPLOYMENT OF U.S. GOVERNMENT ASSETS

¶14. (SBU) The twelve-member advance team from the 22nd MEU has been at Embassy Port-au-Prince since January 16. The rest of the unit is expected to arrive by January 19. (TF1/SOUTHCOM PM Mission update brief)

¶15. (SBU) A Fleet Antiterrorism Support Team (FAST) is scheduled to arrive in Haiti at approximately 0100 on January 19. The fifty-three person specialized Marine unit will be able to address the embassy's security needs. (TF1/Embassy Port-au-Prince telcon)

¶16. (SBU) USNS Lummus is on schedule to arrive in Port-au-Prince on January 22; TRANSCOM has contracted a vessel to depart Florida January 18 carrying meals, water, cots and generators. (TF1/USAID e-mail)

HUMANITARIAN/SECURITY/INFRASTRUCTURE

¶17. (SBU) The World Food Program and International Organization for Migration have accepted the offer of U.S. military escorts for food distribution convoys. (TF1/USAID SitRep #10)

¶18. (SBU) Most of the power grid remains intact. (TF1/USAID

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

¶19. (U) Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez says that the U.S. is occupying Haiti under the guise of providing aid. (jpost.com)

¶20. (U) Additional updates are available through our Intellipedia portal on the unclassified system at: http://www.intelink.gov/wiki/Portal:Crisis_Haiti_Earthquake.

¶21. (U) Minimize considered.
CLINTON